

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A brake unit, comprising:

at least two brake shoes, each having a friction lining;

at least ~~two pistons~~ one piston per brake shoe;

at least one brake disc rotor with outer surfaces each having at least partially a friction surface comprising a metal/ceramic composite material for respective friction linings; and

at least ~~two~~ one application devices device that ~~act~~ acts upon the at least two brake shoes during braking operation,

~~wherein each friction lining is associated with an individual application device,~~

wherein the friction linings cover at least 15% of the friction surface, and

wherein the at least ~~two~~ one application devices ~~are~~ device is designed so that pressure acting on the at least two brake shoes acts essentially uniformly on the friction surface during braking operation, and

wherein a ratio of a mean height to a mean width of each friction lining is approximately 1:1 to 1:1.6.

18. (Currently amended) A brake unit ~~according to Claim 17,~~

comprising:

at least two brake shoes, each having a friction lining;

at least two pistons per brake shoe;

at least one brake disc rotor with outer surfaces each having at least partially a friction surface comprising a metal/ceramic composite material for respective friction linings; and

at least two application devices that act upon the at least two brake shoes during braking operation,

wherein the friction linings cover at least 15% of the friction surface,

wherein the at least two application devices are designed so that pressure acting on the at least two brake shoes acts essentially uniformly on the friction surface during braking operation, and

wherein a ratio of a mean height to a mean width of each friction lining is approximately 1:1 to 1:1.6.

19. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 17, comprising a plurality of application devices which act on at least four brake shoes.

20. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein single- or multiple-piston callipers, in which one or more brake shoes are arranged, are provided for each application device.

21. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 20, wherein two to six brake shoes are provided for each application device.

22. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 20, wherein four to six brake shoes are provided for each application device.

23. (Currently amended) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein the at least ~~two~~ one application ~~devices comprise~~ device comprises a mechanical and/or electronic compensation ~~elements, which are~~ element designed so that application forces are distributed uniformly to a plurality of friction linings by the principle of balanced levers.

24. (Currently amended) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein ~~the~~ at least two pistons are arranged so that pressure acting on the at least two brake shoes is uniform.

25. (Currently amended) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein ~~the~~ at least two pistons are arranged so that pressure acting on the at least two brake shoes is for operating friction coefficients of about 0.40 to 0.45.

26. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein two brake shoes per friction surface of the brake disc rotor are arranged so that their lines of action enclose an angle α of about 110 to 130°.

27. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein the friction linings have a compressibility of over 1 $\mu\text{m}/\text{bar}$ brake fluid pressure.

28. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 17, further comprising an intermediate layer having a compressibility of over 1 $\mu\text{m}/\text{bar}$ brake fluid pressure and located between the friction linings of the brake shoes of the application device.

29. (Currently amended) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein at least the friction ~~surfaces comprise~~ surface comprises an aluminum/ceramic composite material or a silicon/ceramic composite material.

30. (Currently amended) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein at least the friction ~~surfaces comprise~~ surface comprises a fiber-reinforced composite material.

31. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 30, wherein the metal/ceramic composite material contains at least one of carbon fibers or silicon carbide fibers as reinforcing fibers.

32. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 30, wherein the metal/ceramic composite material contains long fibers.

33. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 32, wherein the long fibers are in the form of woven fiber structures or non-woven fiber structures.

34. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 30, wherein the metal/ceramic composite material contains short fibers.

35. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 34, wherein the short fibers are isotropically-oriented short fibers.

36. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein the metal/ceramic composite material contains a silicon carbide ceramic or an aluminum oxide ceramic.

37. (Previously presented) A brake unit according to Claim 17, wherein the friction surface and the brake disc rotor are formed in one piece and comprise the same material.